IN TWO SECTIONS

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Section 2

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PACIFIC SCHOOL
OF RELIGION

RUTH ISABEL SEABURY
1892-1955

Young People's Secretary, Woman's Board of Missions, 1916-1926

Educational Secretary, The American Board, 1926-1955

Delegate to International Missionary Council Meeting, Madras, India, 1938

Director of the International Seminar, 1945-1946

Associate Missionary of The American Board in Japan, 1948-1949

Editor of Envelope Series, *1927-1955*

The Prudential Committee of the American Board, in meeting on September 28, 1955, voted to adopt the following expression of appreciation of Dr. Ruth Isabel Seabury, prepared by Fred Field Goodsell:

"For thirty-nine years Ruth Isabel Seabury has served humanity in the name of Christ through this Board. It is our feeling that no other Christian organization or church in all the world has been honored by a life of service more devoted, more sparkling, more wide-ranging or more effective than her remarkable career.

"Ruth Isabel was a great human and a great Christian... She loved and served people of every race and region, of every creed and condition. Her friendship was her most outstanding characteristic...

"In joyous, almost hilarious sincerity she sought to win everyone she came to know to her Lord and Master. She knew Him. She knew the needs of people. She was confident that she could share no greater blessing than to make Jesus known, loved and obeyed.

"Her special interest across the decades was young people. For ten years, 1916-1926, she served as Young People's Secretary of the Woman's Board of Missions of Boston. For the remaining twenty-nine years she coveted no higher office than that of Educational Secretary of the American Board, for this only enlarged her chosen field of service...

"It is hard to speak of her except in what seem to be extravagant terms. The qualities of her mind and heart and of her whole personality were such as to win almost instant attention in any group of which she became a member. Incredibly swift to understand a situation or to grasp a personal problem, unreservedly committed to every possible proof of real concern to help, resourceful to an amazing degree and unwilling to let her own needs interfere with her task, she trod a royal highway with her Master..."

RUTH ISABEL SEABURY

Ruth Isabel Seabury never spoke or wrote much about herself—she was too busy with other things. In 1937, however, she wrote, on request, an autobiographical sketch, describing briefly and simply her background and her experience to that time. We believe her friends and readers will be interested in this brief but personal account, and we are including much of it here. At some points we have amplified it with comments by some of her friends and associates, and have attempted to bring it up to date with facts gleaned from the records. But the story as told here is far from complete. A full account of the life of Ruth Seabury and her influence on people all over the world would fill many pages; we can only hint at the scope of her interests and activities, and the number and importance of the things she did.

ARMSTRONG HUNTER

* * *

The 1937 sketch begins simply:

"I was born in Bangor, Maine, but my grandparents' homes were in Waterville, Maine (my mother's people) and Yarmouth, where I still have the old grandfather place to which I shall retire in my old age... I have seventeen Maine sea captains in my family background, and that accounts for a *lot* in a New Englander like me."

Miss Seabury enjoyed telling of her New England ancestry and heritage. On one occasion, when the Superintendent of the Congregational Christian Conference of Maine made no mention of the Bangor birthplace in publicity for a speaking trip she was to make through Maine, she wrote to him: "There is one serious error

which I suppose nothing can be done about. I am a native of Bangor! And the whole region round about is full of friends of my mother and father. If your committee is giving publicity to the Bangor papers, perhaps you can correct this ... I hope you can."

The sketch continues:

"My father was a construction engineer, later in life specializing in Electrical Engineering. We moved constantly, twenty times before I was 21, and that seems on the whole to have helped to make me keenly interested in people and very adaptable. I've been blessed by a great variety of experience.

"I went to school in Connecticut, and to Smith College where I graduated in 1914. In college I majored in Education and Psychology with some special work in psychiatry. So in my two years of teaching, in the Playground Settlement Supervision which I did during vacations and in my College Settlement work in college, I was especially interested in education to prevent or cure maladjustments. I have kept on with my study and interest in this field ever since and find myself growing in it by experience. One line in which I have especially applied it has been in the field of race relations. My teaching experience was largely in the "Jewish Rural Belt" of Connecticut and we were working quite definitely at the problem there. Since then I have of course carried it over with special emphasis in my missionary education work.

"As a youngster I was supposed to be an invalid and never knew a full year of health until after college. A careful study of my own physique under a skilled doctor's guidance, the adoption of a thorough program for living in health, and the steadily increasing use of spiritual power, meditation, relaxation and prayer have made me a well, strong and tireless person, virtually, some have said, with no nerves."

A friend wrote in 1942: "Ruth Seabury has risen above what could be chronic ill health; she travels thousands of miles annually, lives nearly 300 out of 365 days in a suitcase. Yet she goes from one conference, one meeting, one retreat to the next with the enthusiasm of a 'first' and leaves them begging for her return. How can she do it? She is asked this everywhere. In terms of everyday realistic honesty, she does it because she has an expressive sincerity coupled with a rare sense of humor which gives her perspective and balance—and she has an abiding sense of the dignity and importance of each personality she meets. Above all, she believes what she says—and it gives her the strength of ten."

"Just before the World War I became a Pacifist and a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. I have kept up my strong interest there. Of course being a pacifist in war days was an experience that did something very real and permanent for me. I am still actively in the Fellowship of Reconciliation."

Miss Seabury frequently spoke for the FOR. She was active in its Church Peace Mission in the early 1950's. And in her travels in this country and overseas she sought out people who were making for themselves the decision she once made. Writes one of them: "My own very special memory of Ruth Seabury was in the autumn of 1940 at Chicago Theological Seminary. I was in my first year, and she was teaching there that quarter. I, along with others, was a pacifist; and we were facing the original draft registration on October 20. Many were the long nights of discussion on the ethical implications of registration and of military service. It was to her that we instinctively turned for guidance; she was our friend, she understood our problem and our thinking; and she

> shared our very great distrust of militarism. All through my 49 months of alternative service during wartime she kept in touch with me by letter and visits, and by remembrances of a most thoughtful sort ... She was a 'spiritual mother' to both my wife and me. We who have been touched by her spirit know God better."

"I wanted very much to go myself to the mission field and was refused on health grounds, so when the chance came to serve in the Woman's Board of Missions as a Secretary at home, in Young People's work, I eagerly accepted and gave up a very interesting career just opening out in administrative secular education along the corrective lines mentioned above. I have never regretted, never been tempted by the somewhat flattering openings in secular education and in college work which have come to me from time to time ever since."

> A longtime friend and associate of the Woman's Board days recalls: "For the task of missionary education among young people Ruth Seabury had unusual qualifications: her college 'major' in education and psychology, her love and understanding of youth (she was then only 24 years old herself), and her dedication to the missionary cause. Those who worked intimately with her during her first years with the Woman's Board were stimulated by her keen, resourceful mind. She quickly discovered new ways to make 'missions' come alive as she prepared material for use in the churches and as she addressed young people's groups. She was eagerly ready for new experiences and found exhilaration in them. A keen sense of humor carried her over many a hump. The promise of her great influence in later years was already evident."

"In 1926 my field of Young People's work was broadened to

include the whole field of education for missionary enthusiasm and world friendship and I was made Educational Secretary of the American Board. But I still spend about half my time in young people's work. One of my official hobbies is a younger girls' World Friendship Camp, Camp Yiu Ch'ing for girls under 16, of which I am the Director."

> A friend of many years writes: "Camp Yiu Ch'ing for girls from 13 to 16 years old and Camp Aloha, at the Northfield Missionary Conference for girls from 16 to 26, will ever be remembered by Congregational girls grown into women, because of the outstanding leadership of Ruth Isabel. Out of those camps have come missionaries, missionary wives, ministers' wives, directors of Christian education and church leaders unto the ends of the earth. Innumerable girls were influenced by her dynamic Christian personality through the years in these summer camps. In fact it was at Camp Aloha that Ruth Isabel Seabury was discovered by the Woman's Board back in 1916! She was the leader of a delegation of girls from Colchester, Connecticut, where she was a high school teacher. Camp Yiu Ch'ing was unique in that here a specialty was made of missionary daughters and they were given 'working scholarships' whereby they helped provide missionary education for their own age delegates from the churches."

"In my work, which is in itself fascinating and constructive, I believe, for peace and world brotherhood in the only really permanent and foundational way, the way of Christian love and service, I am lucky enough to have had thrilling experiences. I have been abroad several times but two trips deserve special mention. In 1928-29 I went around the world, visiting people of 27 countries and taking a year for the job, all of course in the

light of over ten years' intensive study of the culture, history and people of these lands. In the course of the trip I visited Gandhi in his home, saw the Turkish Social and Educational revolution at its unforgetable height, saw Kagawa, journeyed into the mountains of China and up the river off the beaten track and got to know *people* themselves as I never dreamed I would."

Miss Seabury's personal interest in people and concern for their problems and needs is the keynote in all of her writings. A sampling of titles suggests this: "A Visit to the Villages of India," "The Hope of Japan," "Introducing Young China," "Women Who Make a Difference," "National Christian Leaders," are representative. The newspaper accounts of her speeches bear the same emphasis. She spoke, for instance, on "achieving human stature in Africa," and "the aloofness of most church-goers to the real needs of the world." In one address she stressed the need for "Hot Christians," a plea which made a headline in a college paper on the west coast in 1941. She was a superb reporter of events she had witnessed, and loved to tell about persons she had come to know first-hand. Perhaps her greatest influence lay in making people vividly aware of the nature of the world and the part the Church—and they—must play in it.

"In 1933, I was the guest of the churches of all denominations and their various Boards in Great Britain, teaching in their summer conferences in England and Scotland, visiting in homes and schools and then going for a World Conference of Education on the special problems of Peace Education Through Geography and History in the schools. Yes, I've been *very* lucky."

It is easy to lose track of Miss Seabury's travels. She attended the Madras Conference in India in 1938. Her

latest publicity mentioned that the trip to Southeast Asia was her third major overseas journey since 1949, when she was in Japan. Following most of her trips abroad she was asked to speak to the Prudential Committee of the American Board about what she had seen and learned and what she felt she must share with others. After the Madras Conference she reported at length, stating clearly a concern which was to remain with her for years to come:

"I came home feeling that one of the speeches I would like to make across America would be under the title "We Are Not Alone." No group of our fellowship must ever have a sense of being alone again. We ourselves need to get away from that feeling. We are part of a fellowship that is world wide. That I think we need desperately to understand in America, so that is why I am anxious that we should not pass up the opportunity to make the most complete use we can of those who come to us in the leadership of the younger churches."

"Last fall I spent three months visiting the deep South. For the past seven years I have spent four-fifths of my time on the road—preaching, speaking, teaching all over America."

Miss Seabury frequently returned to the South. In 1938 she wrote in *The Christian Sun,* weekly newspaper of the Southern Convention of the Congregational Christian Churches, that she found the experience of a third visit in two years "most heartwarming" and wished to "affectionately express my appreciation and loyalty to those of our Southern membership whose work and spirit I so much admire." The leaders of the churches in the South admired her, too. When Elon College in North Carolina granted her the degree of Doctor of Literature

in 1940, President Smith wrote to the American Board: "We in the South are very fond of Miss Seabury and feel that she deserves the recognition given and the honor conferred. She is the first lady to receive an honorary degree from the institution. Elon College considers it a privilege to have had the honor of conferring the degree, for we consider it an honor."

But her travels took her to every part of the United States. Often at staff meetings her comments on any point under discussion would begin with a brief reference to a place recently visited: "In Klamath Falls they told me ..." or "Iowa is thinking of ..." or "The men in southern California asked me to tell you ..." or simply "In the field they're saying ..." Files of clippings reveal the extent of her journeys in this country, to the whistle stops as well as the large cities. She was constantly on the go: in one short swing in 1946 she visited Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Lexington, Kentucky; Cedar Falls and Des Moines, Iowa; Houston, Texas; Wilmington, Delaware; Park Ridge, New Jersey; Burlington and Montpelier, Vermont; Keene, New Hampshire; and places in between. Each newspaper report bears her name, with the same photograph, but with a different phrase highlighted in the caption—for she was always finding new things to say and new ways to say them. Perhaps no other person in the leadership of the churches traveled so strenuously, so far, so much, and with so much effectiveness.

"As for my books—I have been actively connected with the Missionary Education Movement and Friendship Press and for them have written largely courses and guides for teachers and leaders. I've written a lot for the magazines, especially for those of my denomination."

An associate of Miss Seabury's for 37 years in the Missionary Education Movement writes that she was "a staunch friend and most valued colleague and comrade" in the development of that interdenominational enterprise. "She was always using her creative gifts in thinking and planning for the program of our fellowship as a whole, and took cheerfully many tasks involving great personal effort and heavy responsibility. I do not know what we should ever have done without her in this expanding program."

"As to family, I have three brothers, one a doctor, one a Major in the United States Army, one a musician. And I have two adopted sisters. From all these I have numerous nephews and nieces, in whose education I am keenly interested."

Hundreds of other young people—in Pilgrim Fellowship groups, seminaries and youth conferences in all parts of the country—thought of Ruth Seabury affectionately as "Aunt Ruth." She thrilled and inspired them, and won their loyalty by her understanding and genuine interest in them. She was greatly loved by young people of other countries, too. When serving as Educational Counselor at Doshisha University in 1948-49 she met many young Japanese students whom she afterward assisted in coming to the United States for further study. During their stay in this country she was their most faithful friend and counselor, and in some cases the chief means of their support.

Miss Seabury once said that her hobbies were "people and human problems and life; they are a never failing source of delight to me." Her remembrance of anniversaries was one expression of her thoughtfulness and consideration for her family and friends. But there were

many other expressions. A letter from a valued colleague, found in her files, indicates this: "I cannot let this Christmas season pass without sending my warm admiration and saying thanks for your unfailing encouragement and helpfulness. Everyone knows about the great job you do for the work which engages our common loyalty. But fewer know how much your generous thoughtfulness and appreciation helps your colleagues along the way..."

It is significant that more than a thousand persons were on Ruth Seabury's personal mailing list. In the words used at her memorial service in Jamaica Plain: "She gave herself freely to all—to old and young, to rich and poor, to those of high estate and lowly degree, to those of every race and nation—and in return she enjoyed the confidence and the affection of myriads of men, women and children in all lands."

* * *

If Ruth Seabury had been able to bring her autobiography up to date, she would have described with straightforwardness, delight and vibrancy a wide variety of other interests which engrossed her in recent years.

Since 1940, she had been associated with the Danforth Foundation. She traveled for them one month of every year, visiting colleges all over America. She also worked closely with the Danforth Graduate program, whereby college girls give the year following graduation to Christian service on a college campus. For the past two years, she directed the training program for these Graduates.

For fifteen years she taught at Camp Miniwanca, the Christian leadership training camp of the American Youth Foundation. She always enjoyed this relationship because it brought her into close contact with young people. She was on her way to

RUTH ISABEL SEABURY

Top, Ruth Seabury with Mr. Danforth, other leaders, and a group of Danforth Graduates at Camp Miniwanca. *Bottom,* Listening to music by native musicians on her visit to Poruloor School in India in 1952.

Top: Miss Seabury with members of the International Seminar, 1945-1946. *Bottom:* Miss Seabury wearing Indian costume, photographed by a friend in whose home she was entertained on a visit to India.

Top, Ruth Seabury with Mr. Danforth, other leaders, and a group of Danforth Graduates at Camp Miniwanca. *Bottom,* Listening to music by native musicians on her visit to Poruloor School in India in 1952.

Top: Miss Seabury with members of the International Seminar, 1945-1946. *Bottom:* Miss Seabury wearing Indian costume, photographed by a friend in whose home she was entertained on a visit to India.

Pan American World Airways

Miss Seabury in Hawaii at the start of her 1955 trip
to Southeast Asia

Camp Miniwanca when the heart attack came which took her life in Muskegon, Michigan, July 30.

She served as an Associate Missionary of the American Board in Japan in 1948 and 1949, as Educational Counselor at Doshisha University. She spoke of this experience as the fulfillment of the desire of a lifetime: after many years the American Board had given her the chance to be the missionary she originally wanted to be.

She was active in the Student Volunteer Movement, the National Preaching Mission, and University Christian Missions. Her contact with students from overseas increased year by year, and her interest in Christian programs for them in this country was intense. She helped to arouse Congregational Christian interest in such a program, and she worked with the Committee on Friendly Relations with Foreign Students, to whose executive committee she had recently been elected.

She organized and directed the International Seminar in Chicago in 1945-46, which brought together national Christians from many nations and American churchmen from a variety of situations. This was a pioneering and effective venture; it marked the moment of real conversion to an attitude of world-mindedness and Christian concern for many persons who took part in it, or heard about it, or saw it first-hand when it barnstormed the country.

She edited *Envelope Series* from 1927 until her death. She nurtured from its beginnings twelve years ago the Missions Council's Committee on Missionary Education in the Local Church, and served as its chairman until 1954. She wrote abundantly. Her later books include *Flight to Destiny,* a tribute to Theodore C. Hume, and *So Send I You,* a book just completed for the Evangelical and Reformed Church's Christian Education Press. Final touches for this were sent by her from Japan on an airmailed dictaphone belt. Her trips to Africa and India and Ceylon (1952-1953) and to Southeast Asia (March-July

1955) were taken for the purpose of gathering material for books she planned to write, one of which was to be published by the Friendship Press and used as a mission study text.

It was Ruth Seabury's constant hope that Christianity and its institutions would become again a pioneering witness in the life of today. To that end she recruited able ministers and candidates for mission service. To that end she counseled and aided students and sought out promising young people. And to that end she spoke often and with force on the need for wider church union. To that end she worked and spoke and wrote and lived.

There are other matters which Miss Seabury would not have put in a sketch of her life, but which should be included in an account written by another. She rarely spoke of honors which came to her, such as the honorary degrees from Cedar Crest College, Elon College, and Hood College. There were many times when she said "No" to positions offered her by other organizations. Invitations to speak came from all sources: she said once that she felt she had really made the grade when the Chicago Sunday Evening Club invited her to give an address. The entreaties which came from *Who's Who* to grace its list were disregarded, as were letters asking her to write special articles for attractive fees. There were innumerable occasions, too, when her judgment and counsel were sought; she seldom mentioned these, but when the issue was close to her heart, she would champion it against all odds.

She had many qualities which made people love and respect her: her wisdom and insight, her dignity and charm, her devotion and loyalty are among them. Her sense of fun was deep and joyous. Good taste and love of nice things were also hers.

Her power as a speaker was known far and wide. Brewer Eddy once told a group of young people that "Ruth Seabury knocks them clear back against the fence whenever she comes to bat." A Drury College newspaper reporter once wrote two

columns about how Drury students "dropped out of chapel all inspired, shining-eyed, talking excitedly, and still taken aback over the idea of being really thrilled by a chapel talk." A letter telling of a sermon she delivered the Sunday before her death bears testimony to the fact that this power never lessened.

She had a remarkable ability to stand firm; early this year she told a group which was considering a change she felt to be unwise, "I must request that you postpone that until I have retired." Her incisiveness, her impatience when things didn't move along fast enough—these, too, were part of her character. Her integrity and what at times was referred to as her "inner dynamic" were prominent traits. But most of all, she drew people to her. They were attracted and moved by her; they were eager to hear from her or about her.

All who knew Ruth Seabury have their own special recollections of her, special reasons for being grateful to God for her. Many have particular concerns or convictions which they owe to her influence. Others will remember some incident she recounted whose meaning was burned into their hearts—such as the time Gandhi told her the Christian Bible was full of dynamite, "but you Christians read it as though it was good literature and nothing else."

She had a way of illustrating her points with stories or remarks made by people she had met—a Turkish villager, a Chinese peasant, an Indian student, or a man she talked with on a train. Everyday situations and conversation bore revelations to her of the nature of God and the nature of Truth. She lived fully, shared richly—and the mark of having known her is on many of us, in many lands and in many walks of life.

Since Miss Seabury's death, letters in appreciation of her have been coming to the American Board in rather substantial quantities. They have come from all parts of the United States and from all parts of the world, and they are still coming. From those which were received before these pages were printed we have selected a few for partial quotation here. They suggest, we think, the extent and the nature of Ruth Isabel Seabury's influence. They suggest also how much of a loss her death has meant—to men and women, and to the Christian world.

"The news of Ruth Seabury's death was a considerable shock to us. She had demonstrated such vivacity wherever she had gone, people could hardly believe she was as old as she claimed to be. We regret her passing not only because of the intrinsic loss the World Mission of the Church has suffered, but also because we had counted upon her advocacy of the Indonesian cause.

"... I recall hearing her first at the Silver Bay Conference in 1941. I was just home from seven years in Japan, and was thrilled by the dynamic she infused into her messages. In humility I can hope to have learned from her some of the arts of constructive missionary education.... We have lost a valued guide."

WINBURN THOMAS, National Council of Churches representative in Indonesia

"She was truly a wonderful and remarkable lady and her passing leaves a very great hole in our hearts and a large gap in the Christian work. We can still remember the brief session we had with her in Berkeley just before we left for Japan and as she was returning to the States after her two or three years there. She did so much then to inspire us with a vision of what might be done in Japan, even as she inspired many many others. We mourn her passing even as we are filled with joyful gratitude for the life she lived among us, and for the many people she led to serving Him who was the guide and support of her own joyous and committed life."

ROBERT W. WOOD, Japan Mission, ABCFM

"I am full of the feeling of deep gratitude for her when I recollect the great service she rendered to Doshisha while acting as advisor to Dr. Yuasa, former president, for two years."

CHANCELLOR SETSUJU OTSUKA,
Doshisha University, Japan

"Miss Seabury was most helpful to us here in Thailand, and we are grateful for the privilege of having known her."

LECK TAIYONG, General Secretary
The Church of Christ in Thailand

"Her record of service on behalf of the Christian World Mission is certainly well-known and her death will bring a sense of deep loss to many persons both here at home and overseas. We know, however, that the influence of her devoted service will continue to promote the things of God's Kingdom here on earth. We rejoice in our knowledge of her dedication and service on behalf of the cause of Christ."

DOBBS F. EHLMAN, The Board of International
Missions, Evangelical and Reformed Church

"My every memory of her is that of a woman full of enthusiasm, interest, and vitality. Perhaps that is as it should be. My memory of her will continue to challenge me to be and do my best for the Master in the time that may be mine to serve him."

THEOPHIL H. TWENTE, Board of International
Missions, Evangelical and Reformed Church

"She has left a heritage to us all—a tireless worker for the Kingdom and we can ill afford to lose her."

MRS. DARLEY DOWNS, Japan Mission, ABCFM

"Ruth was a Christian friend to people in many parts of the world. She was a true colleague to all of us who worked with her in the cause of World Christian missions. Her influence will abide among us."

GLORA M. WYSNER, International Missionary Council, New York

"She was certainly one of the finest women in the Church in this country."

JAMES K. MATTHEWS, Board of Missions
of The Methodist Church

"As members of the Danforth Foundation we had received word already of the passing of this beloved friend from our midst. In our hearts she will live as long as we shall continue to work for the same ends that she had pursued so valiantly and successfully. Above our sorrow there is the radiance of the Eternal, which shone and spoke through her with rare intensity, beauty, and power."

EDWARD AND MINNE ALLEN, Ames, Iowa

"I know of no woman in our entire fellowship who had endeared herself so completely to so many people in our churches as had Ruth Seabury. This is particularly true with the youth of our churches, and our younger ministers, as they took up their life work. To hosts of people, 'missions' means what they have seen in and through Ruth Seabury, and the vision they have had imparted to them has always been true and inspiring."

ALBERT STAUFFACHER, Claremont, California

"I shall always remember Ruth Isabel Seabury with gratitude for her encouragement to me during my preparation for the ministry and for her appreciation of my poetry... Those of us who have known her are inspired by her life of service to honor her memory by a deeper devotion to the life and work of the Church in which she was our comrade and co-worker."

ARVEL M. STEECE, Princeton, Minnesota

"We are still another couple whose first contact with the Board was in the warm-hearted and winsome person of Ruth Isabel, way back in our Seminary days. Ever since she has meant an awful lot to us, and we feel her loss like that of a close neighbor and friend. It is curious, a sign of her greatness, that in all her world-wide journeys she was so commonly felt to belong to the local team. In the same way ... time did not count in one's relations with Ruth Isabel; our friendship with her, nourished by such rare occasions to get together in these last years, always seemed as fresh as the morning."

HOWARD AND ELSIE SCHOMER, France

"Miss Seabury, known to hundreds of Congregational young people as 'Aunt Ruth,' attended more sessions of the National Council of Pilgrim Fellowship than any other person—all of them. In spite of her heavy responsibilities ... she found energy and time to be with us

through many hours of our youth meetings, and was often influential in selecting speakers and resource leaders for Council sessions. Though we mourn her death, we join with others in praise for her good life."

JIM PRICE, National Council of Pilgrim Fellowship

"She will always be in the hearts and minds of the thousands who knew her. She devoted her life to God's service; and as Congregational Christian youths, we sincerely pray that we may contribute to this service in every way possible serving mankind in His Name."

CAROL MIYABUCHI, President, The Hawaii Association of Congregational Christian Youth

"She was such a radiant person, so vital in both the physical and spiritual sense, that she has been an inspiration to me on the many occasions when we had the privilege of working together. Her untimely death is a loss not only to you of the American Board fellowship, but to all of us who believe in applying the principles of the life of our Lord to all human relationships."

FRANK T. CARTWRIGHT, United Board for Christian Colleges in China

"We shall remember her sacrificial labor for the Lord. And her gracious Love for her neighbors. Allow us to join you in prayer of thanksgiving for His giving her to us."

KYOJI AND NOBUKO BUMA, New York

"Ruth Seabury has been a guiding light and inspiration to many generations of youth in summer conferences in Nebraska and elsewhere. How we will miss her challenging, vital messages at such gatherings!"

GERTRUDE L. HANFORD, Lincoln, Nebraska

"Beacuse of her tremendous interest in everything, and enthusiasm for all, she seemed as one without age ... eternal. Truly her influence will be felt on our young people for many a year."

MRS. JAMES H. PRICE, Los Angeles, California

"Those of us who prayed with her, played with her, laughed with her, worked with her, will never forget that she took something out of her

heart and put it in ours, to remain a living memorial to a wonderful friend and a great Christian."

VIOLA KRIZ, National Sponsor,
Sigma Eta Chi, Denver, Colorado

"I felt so depressed when I heard of her demise as I had considered her one of my idols as she took good care of me while I was a student in Boston University. I got the greatest kick in dressing her up in a green pineapple fiber in a Filipino terno in a party we gave her here in Manila before she left, just a few days ago. I did not realize that it was the last time we will see each other.

"Our comforting message is that she has not lived in vain and all her interest in 'Patterns of Things to Come' will be realized here in South Asia and that we in the Philippines will help to bring it about. May there be more Ruth Isabel Seabury's from America to come and visit us!"

MRS. AVELINA LORENZANA OSIAS, Manila

"Ruth could not have known of the deep gratitude I carried in my heart at every thought of her. But I am only one of thousands who could give such a testimony... But, of course, these instances of her thoughtful concern for others were only one phase of her ministry. Her spiritual messages *actually live* in memory and experience."

FLORENCE L. RAWLINSON, West Hartford, Connecticut

"Though I never had the opportunity to meet her, I have long known of her as one of our outstanding Christian leaders. Few women have had the opportunities she so gladly improved to know and make friends for the American Board and to win others to the acceptance of her Lord and Master."

CLARA D. LOOMIS, Long Island, New York

"In spite of all the sorrow of loss and separation, I'm sure that the chief emotion is one of thankfulness that she has lived so long and so richly, and that she has done so much as a Christian ambassador around the world.

"Ruth will be immeasurably missed, all around the world; but her influence will go on living for many, many years and in many lives—what a wonderful person she was!"

LAVINIA SCOTT, South Africa Mission, ABCFM

"Ruth gave here, a week ago yesterday, one of the best sermons on missions I have ever heard. One of our Deacons said to me after the service that her sermon had completely changed his mind about missions, and all of our people were simply thrilled with her... There is only one Ruth Seabury."

THOMAS L. CROSBY, Hawaii

"We are devastated with your news of Ruth Seabury's passing—she seemed so indestructible."

RODERICK SCOTT, California
(formerly of Foochow Mission, ABCFM)

"She was to me an unusual woman. She was so alive: So alive to the meaning of the missionary work, so alive to the needs of people, young and older, so alive to present ideas clearly and forcibly. Please accept my little tribute to her worth and use by God."

HARRY S. MYERS, Hillsdale, Michigan

"Ruth believed the best missionary education existed in sympathy quickened and understanding deepened between two or more people serving a common cause that demanded the best of them."

Ross CANNON, West Newton, Massachusetts

"Certainly Ruth Isabel Seabury had a unique place in the Christian community of our day."

MALCOLM S. HAYES, Hermosillo, Mexico

"To me, Ruth was the best woman speaker I ever heard. People over the world came alive and were our concern and our friends as they were hers."

MRS. L. E. VANANTWERP, Benton Harbor, Michigan

"The thing that impressed me as much if not more than anything else was her willingness to go to the smallest group, and give them the best she had in the cause of Christian Missions... The good seed she has been broadcasting throughout the whole world during all the many years of her intensely active and consecrated life will keep on bearing fruit, through the countless lives she has touched, for eternity to come."

WILSON P. MINTON, Moscow, Pennsylvania

"She has always regarded the Missionary Education Movement as *our* work and thrown herself into it with all her marvelous energy, gifted intellect, outstanding ability in interpretation, and deep Christian devotion."

FRANKLIN D. COGSWELL, New York

"I had received her letters, full of information and inspiration, and revealing so clearly her faith, love, understanding and insight for the work to which she had dedicated her life."

MRS. GRACE HUSSEY, Presque Isle, Maine

"Not since Sarah Chakko died have I felt so much of a sense of loss, personally and to the Christian world."

GEORGIA HARKNESS, Berkeley, California

"Her passing takes from our midst one who has been actively engaged in foreign mission work and promotion for many years, and we will miss her bright and cheerful presence in many of our committees and fellowships. Her loss is one which we share with you and your Board."

LUTHER A. GOTWALD, Executive Secretary,
Division of Foreign Missions, National Council of Churches

"Miss Ruth Isabel Seabury was a friend with understanding and deep sympathy... Our last word from her was that she planned to be active with the Administrative Board at the beginning of the fall of this year. We looked forward to closer relationships with her. We know that a wise and loving God has plans for His earthly children that are beyond our comprehension... but this does not lessen our sorrow and regret at the passing of a real and sincere friend."

J. BENJAMIN SCHMOKER, Committee on Friendly
Relations Among Foreign Students

"As a college student she caught a vision of a world starving for love, friendship, peace. She did not say to God: 'Here am I, send somebody else.' She gave herself to the service of God, fully, completely, unreservedly for forty years... She spent herself building all over the world temples of Love and Friendship and Peace. No matter where she went she was with friends, for she possessed the gift of making friends. Friends all over the U. S., friends in Europe, and in the Near East. Friends in In-

dia, China, Japan, the Philippines, Indonesia, South Africa, Angola, the Gold Coast. Friends, friends, friends everywhere—not for herself alone, but for us, and for the Christ she served."

GEORGE P. MICHAELIDES—from his
Vesper talk at Camp Miniwanca

"I share with you a common sense of gratitude for all that Ruth did and meant. She was a revelation to me of true Christian understanding and friendship. What little usefulness I may have for the Cause of Christ, I owe to Ruth.

"On July 10, she preached one of the best sermons ever heard at International Christian University, a brilliant, inspired sermon on the World-Wide Mission."

HACHIRO YUASA, President, International
Christian University, Tokyo, Japan

"Ruth Isabel Seabury was a modern apostle, carrying the Christian message to the far corners of the earth—touching human hearts wherever she went.

"Her great contribution lay in the never-swerving purpose of her life—to bring the Message and Love of Jesus Christ to *all* men, of *all* races, *all* colors, *all* countries, *all* ages. Her goal was defined and she never lost sight of it for a moment.

"Human need is staggering. Ruth did not spare herself nor measure her strength. She undertook with tireless effort the task of reconciliation, sensitive to the needs of all, fearless of mind and voice, trusting and trusted, in partnership with the great Giver of strength, Jesus.

"She was a living example of high principle and goodness, coupled with joy and humor—an example of Christian dedication. While her world was so large one could not reach the end of it, her touch was personal and human—to each individual, to each need, each hope, and each sorrow.

"Ruth made exciting and fascinating a devoted life of Christian service. She made religion dynamic to young and old. She was an inspiration, a beloved and true friend, whose memory we cherish and honor."

WILLIAM H. DANFORTH, St. Louis, Missouri